

CHAPTER 90
STANDARDS FOR GRADUATE TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAMS

[Prior to 9/7/88, see Public Instruction Department[670] Ch 20]

281—90.1(256) Definitions. For purposes of clarity, the following definitions are used throughout the chapter.

“*Department*” means state department of education.

“*Director*” means director of education.

“*Graduate teacher education programs*” means the graduate programs of teacher education leading to certification.

“*Institution*” means a college or university in Iowa offering graduate study and which is seeking state board approval of its graduate teacher education program(s).

“*Program*” means a specific field of specialization leading to a specific endorsement or an approval area.

“*State board*” means Iowa state board of education.

“*Unit*” means the organizational entity within an institution with the responsibility of administering the graduate teacher education program(s).

281—90.2(256) Authority. Graduate teacher education programs in Iowa are subject to approval by the state board as provided in Iowa Code section 256.7(3).

281—90.3(256) Institutions affected. All Iowa colleges and universities offering graduate study and which are seeking state board approval of their graduate teacher education programs shall meet the standards contained in this chapter.

281—90.4(256) Criteria for graduate teacher education programs. Each institution seeking approval of its graduate teacher education programs shall file evidence of the extent to which it meets the standards contained in this chapter by means of a self-evaluation report.

The filing shall include the specific program or curricular pattern designed to meet the requirements and the teaching privileges or services to be authorized for each endorsement and shall specify the courses or competencies that students must complete or exhibit and the standards which must be attained as a condition for being recommended for certification or endorsement(s) or approval(s). Each program for which approval is sought must be submitted for review and approval by the state board.

The self-evaluation shall include a definition of the scope and limitations of the graduate program offerings and services, indicating the basic level, whether it is prekindergarten-kindergarten, elementary, secondary, elementary-secondary, or postsecondary.

After the state board has approved the specific programs filed by an institution, students who complete the programs and are recommended by an authorized official of that institution will be issued the appropriate certificate bearing one or more teaching or specific service endorsements, and also, where applicable, approval indicating the subject of areas of approval.

281—90.5(256) Approval of graduate teacher education programs. The director shall base recommendations to the state board for approval of graduate teacher education programs on a study of the factual and evaluative evidence on record about each program in terms of the standards contained in this chapter.

Approval, if granted, shall be for a term of five years; however, approval for a lesser term may be granted by the state board if it determines conditions warrant.

If approval is not granted, the applying institution will be advised concerning the areas in which improvements or changes appear to be essential for approval. The institution may reapply at its discretion when it is ready to show what actions have been taken along the lines of suggested improvement.

281—90.6(256) Visiting teams. Upon application or reapplication for approval, a team shall visit each institution for evaluation of its graduate teacher education programs. The membership of the team shall be selected by the teacher education and certification bureau with the concurrence of the institution being visited. The team may include faculty members of other teacher education institutions within or outside the state, personnel from the elementary and secondary schools, to include classroom teachers, personnel of the department, representatives from professional education organizations, and students in graduate teacher education programs from other than the institution being visited. Each team member should have appropriate competencies, background, and experience to enable the member to contribute to the evaluation effort. The expenses for the visiting team shall be borne by the department.

281—90.7(256) Periodic report. Each institution shall keep its graduate teacher education programs under continuous, faculty-wide review. Institutions placed on the approved programs list will be asked to make periodic reports upon request of the department which shall provide basic information necessary to keep the records of each graduate teacher education program up-to-date.

281—90.8(256) Reevaluation of graduate teacher education programs. An institution shall file a self-evaluation of its graduate teacher education programs at any time deemed necessary by the director. Any action for continued approval or rescission of approval shall be approved by the state board.

281—90.9(256) Approval of program changes. Upon application by an institution, the director is authorized to approve minor additions or changes within the institution's approved graduate teacher education programs. When an institution proposes major revisions in one or more of its approved programs, or a revision which exceeds the primary scope of its graduate teacher education programs, the revisions shall become operative only after having been approved by the state board.

281—90.10(256) Purposes and objectives. The unit seeking approval of its graduate teacher education programs shall have defined statements of purposes and objectives. These objectives shall be consistent with the overall objectives of the institution.

281—90.11(256) Organization.

90.11(1) Control. Overall control of the institution shall reside in a board or an otherwise designated body.

Institutions shall present evidence that the board is fulfilling its responsibility in providing policy, facilities, and faculty for graduate teacher education programs.

90.11(2) General administration. The institution shall be under the direction of an administrative officer.

90.11(3) The unit. Responsibility for assuring the quality of the various graduate teacher education programs within an institution shall be centralized and vested in a single designated administrative unit. Although aspects of this responsibility may be shared with appropriate units or committees, responsibility shall be unified, specific, widely understood, and the administrative unit shall be generally accessible.

The provisions for communication, cooperation, and coordination shall be clear in institutions operating several programs.

90.11(4) Finances. Financial resources shall be available to support the scope of the graduate teacher education programs.

90.11(5) Extended services. Institutions offering extended services for graduate teacher education programs including summer sessions, evening and weekend programs, off-campus extension, and correspondence courses shall provide the resources necessary for conducting such programs.

281—90.12(256) Students.

90.12(1) Admission to the institution. The institution shall comply with its announced entrance requirements.

90.12(2) Admission to and retention in graduate teacher education programs. There shall be announced and written policies by which students apply for, are admitted to, and are retained in graduate teacher education programs.

90.12(3) Evaluation. The unit shall design and implement a plan for continuous evaluation of students as they progress through the graduate teacher education programs. Measures of academic ability, observation by faculty in courses, laboratory field experiences, and other modes of appraisal should be utilized to assess specific strengths and weaknesses as they affect the programming for students, their retention within the graduate teacher education programs, and their readiness to assume the professional role for which they are preparing.

90.12(4) Advisory service. Graduate students in teacher education shall have available to them advisory services. The advisory system for students in graduate teacher education programs shall reflect attention to individual student potentialities.

90.12(5) Student records. The unit shall maintain a system of student records for those enrolled in graduate teacher education programs.

90.12(6) Student participation in graduate teacher education programs. Students enrolled in graduate teacher education programs shall have the opportunity to express at least annually their views regarding those programs. Clear lines of communication must be open for student input affecting the development and evaluation of the graduate teacher education programs.

90.12(7) Residence requirement. The residence requirement shall be appropriate to the objectives of the programs in which they apply.

281—90.13(256) Faculty.

90.13(1) Faculty competence. The collective competence and background of the graduate faculty in teacher education shall include a balance of theory, knowledge of current practices in program areas offered, and actual experiences for which students are being prepared.

The institution shall have written policies of selection, retention, and promotion of personnel.

90.13(2) Part-time faculty. The part-time faculty in graduate teacher education programs shall be identified as such. Part-time faculty shall meet the requirements for appointment to the full-time faculty or shall be employed on a proportionate basis when they can make a contribution to the graduate teacher education programs.

The unit shall monitor the use of part-time faculty in order to prevent the fragmentation of instruction in graduate teacher education programs.

90.13(3) Instruction. The unit shall evaluate instruction systematically. Appraisal of the graduate teacher education faculty shall be made in terms of instructional competence to provide the programs for which approval is being sought.

281—90.14(256) Facilities.

90.14(1) Library. The library shall serve as the principal resource center for the instruction, research, and other services pertinent to the graduate teacher education programs. Administrative procedures and equipment shall conform to accepted media practices, including cataloging methods, and adequate hours of accessibility. The library shall be administered by professionally prepared personnel.

90.14(2) Instructional materials center. A materials laboratory or center shall be maintained either as part of the library or as a separate entity. It shall be open to students as a laboratory of materials for instruction and supervision and shall be administered by professionally prepared personnel.

90.14(3) Other resources. Classrooms, offices, clerical assistance, equipment and other resources essential for graduate teacher education programs shall be available to support the scope of the programs offered.

281—90.15(256) Curriculum.

90.15(1) *Development, evaluation and revision.* Responsibilities for the administration of a continuing program of curriculum development, evaluation, and revisions for graduate teacher education programs shall be centralized in a designated administrative unit.

The process of curriculum development for the various graduate teacher education programs shall make provision for enlisting the cooperation and participation of representatives of local school systems, college teachers in fields related to the area of specialization, professional associations, and appropriate committees.

90.15(2) *Planning.* Planning shall make clear the provisions for assuring scholarship in depth appropriate to the announced level. Each program shall provide for maintaining the quality of scholarship.

90.15(3) *Breadth.* Programs shall provide sufficient breadth of coverage to enable the student to develop supporting and related competencies and insights in addition to a major emphasis.

90.15(4) *Supervised experiences.* Programs designed for the development of initial competence in teaching or in an area of educational specialization shall include a program of supervised practical experience in the functions for which the student is being prepared or equivalent experiences as judged by the institution.

90.15(5) *Flexibility.* Each program shall have sufficient flexibility to permit adaptation to the individual backgrounds and objectives of the students.

90.15(6) *Guidelines.* Programs shall be designed to meet the guidelines established by the state board. These guidelines will be based on current practices and recommendations of professional organizations representing the area of specialization as well as recommendations of recognized professional education specialists in higher education programs leading to certification.

90.15(7) *Objectives.* Each program shall be built upon a statement of purposes and objectives of teaching/serving in the area of the school curriculum.

90.15(8) *Course content or competencies.* Each program shall be built on a statement of the courses or competencies needed by persons to teach or to serve in the appropriate area of the school program or curriculum.

281—90.16(256) Evaluation of graduates. There shall be a continuous program of evaluation which provides for a systematic follow-up of graduates to determine the adequacy of their preparation and their competence as professionals.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code section 256.7(3).

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